

Nomination for Assistant Secretaries of Labor

April 19, 1993

The President today named California Chief Deputy Treasurer E. Olena Berg and former Michigan Department of Commerce Director Douglas Ross to senior positions at the Department of Labor. He intends to nominate Ms. Berg to be Assistant Secretary for Pension and Welfare Benefit Programs, Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration, and Mr. Ross to be Assistant Secretary for Employment and Training, Employment and Training Administration.

"Olena Berg and Doug Ross have been effective and innovative officials at the State government level," said the President. "Both have significant business experience as well. I am very pleased that they will be part of Secretary Reich's team at Labor."

NOTE: Biographies of the nominees were made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

Remarks on Presenting the Teacher of the Year Award

April 20, 1993

The President. Good afternoon. Please be seated.

I want to say, first, how delighted I am to be here with Secretary Riley and with Senator Graham. The three of us served as Governors together during the 1980's when we worked constantly on strategies to improve our schools, when we led often difficult and long efforts to upgrade the standards in American education and to improve the quality of instruction our children were receiving.

There were no two Governors whom I admired more during that period than the two who now stand on this stage with the Teacher of the Year. And I think both of them would join me in saying that, after all the testimony has been heard and all the bills have been passed and the funds have been raised and allocated, it all comes down to what happens between the teacher and the students in the classroom.

That's why today's ceremony honoring the National Teacher of the Year is so important. Tracey Leon Bailey has won recognition all across our country for highly advanced and innovative science programs. He's developed and introduced into Florida's classrooms cutting-edge programs in molecular biology and DNA fingerprinting, subjects usually taught only in college and, I might add, probably only dimly understood here in the Nation's Capital.

Within 3 years of being hired by a satellite high school, Mr. Bailey's institution had one of

the strongest science programs in the entire State of Florida, and it won numerous national and international awards. These advanced programs aren't just for a favored few. Tracey Bailey has inspired all kinds of students, including those previously known as low-achieving or at-risk, to reach for excellence and to attain it. This is what our students need and what our country needs.

Today, we know that a good future with high wages and rich opportunities rests on the foundation of quality education for a lifetime. The basics aren't enough anymore. All our kids need competence in math and science and advanced problemsolving. That's why Tracey Bailey's accomplishments are so important and why I am so pleased and proud to participate in recognizing and honoring these accomplishments.

Tracey, you represent the best in the United States. I'm glad to recognize you today and to formally present you with this apple award as the Teacher of the Year for 1993.

[At this point, the President presented the award, and Mr. Bailey made a brief statement of appreciation.]

The President. In closing, I would like to also welcome the education leaders from Florida who are here, those representing the national education groups who have also come. I'd like to recognize Tracey's Congressman, Representa-